

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) In a liquid crystal display (LCD) fabrication process, a method for cleaning a resin residue, the method comprising:

forming an electrode layer;
forming a resin residue overlying a first area of the electrode layer;
forming a ~~thin~~ sheet of water overlying the resin residue;
blowing ozone gas into the sheet of water to create a moist ozone gas; and,
wet ashing the resin residue overlying the first area of the electrode layer using the moist ozone gas.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

following the forming of an electrode layer, forming an interlayer film of resin overlying the electrode later;
patterning the resin interlayer;
forming a via to access the first area of the electrode layer;
and,
wherein forming a resin residue overlying a first area of the electrode layer includes forming a resin residue in response to forming the via.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein forming an interlayer film of resin overlying an electrode layer includes forming

an interlayer film of resin having a thickness in the range of 100 to 1000 Angstroms (Å).

4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein blowing ozone gas into the sheet of water to create a moist ozone gas includes introducing a gas mixture of approximately 10 % ozone by molecular weight (wt %).

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein forming a thin sheet of water overlying the resin residue includes heating the water to a temperature of approximately 90 degrees C.

6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

following wet ashing the resin residue overlying the first area of the electrode layer using the moist ozone gas, depositing a metal layer overlying the first area of the electrode to form a pixel electrode.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein depositing a metal layer overlying the first area of the electrode to form a pixel electrode includes depositing a metal layer material selected from the group including indium tin oxide (ITO) and aluminum overlying molybdenum.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein wet ashing the resin residue overlying the first area of the electrode layer

using the moist ozone gas includes etching the resin residue at a rate of 200 Å per minute.

9. (Withdrawn) In a liquid crystal display (LCD) fabrication process, a method for repairing a resin interlayer surface, the method comprising:

- forming an interlayer film of resin with a surface;
- dry etching the surface of the resin interlayer;
- in response to dry etching, damaging the resin interlayer surface;
- introducing a gas mixture including ozone into water to create a moist ozone gas;
- wet ashing the resin interlayer surface using the moist ozone gas; and,
- in response to wet ashing the resin interlayer surface, repairing the damage caused by the dry etching.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 further comprising:

- prior to forming an interlayer film of resin, forming an underlying electrode layer;
- following the forming of the interlayer film of resin, patterning the resin interlayer; and,
- wherein dry etching the resin interlayer includes forming a via to access a first area of the electrode layer using a dry etching process.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein forming an interlayer film of resin includes forming an interlayer film of resin having a thickness in the range of 100 to 1000 Angstroms (Å).

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein introducing a gas mixture including ozone into water to create a moist ozone gas includes introducing a gas mixture of approximately 10 % ozone by molecular weight (wt %).

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein introducing a gas mixture including ozone into water to create a moist ozone gas includes heating the water to a temperature of approximately 90 degrees C.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 further comprising:

following wet ashing the resin interlayer surface using the moist ozone gas, depositing a metal layer overlying the resin interlayer surface and the first area of the electrode to form a pixel electrode.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14 wherein depositing a metal layer overlying the resin interlayer surface and the first area of the electrode to form a pixel electrode includes depositing a metal layer material selected from the group including indium tin oxide (ITO) and aluminum overlying molybdenum.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein wet ashing the resin interlayer surface using the moist ozone gas includes etching the resin interlayer surface at a rate of 200 Å per minute.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein wet ashing the resin interlayer surface using the moist ozone gas includes etching the resin interlayer surface a thickness in the range of 100 to 500 Å.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein dry etching the surface of the resin interlayer includes dry etching with a plasma including CF₄ and O₂.

19. (Withdrawn) In a liquid crystal display (LCD) fabrication process, a method for repairing a resin interlayer surface, the method comprising:

forming an electrode;

forming an interlayer film of resin with a surface, overlying an electrode later;

patterning the resin interlayer;

dry etching the surface of the resin interlayer to form a via to a first area of the electrode;

in response to dry etching, damaging the resin interlayer surface;

introducing a gas mixture including ozone into water to create a moist ozone gas;

wet ashing the resin interlayer surface using the moist ozone gas;

in response to wet ashing the resin interlayer surface, repairing the damage caused by the dry etching; and,

forming a pixel electrode overlying the first area of the electrode and the surface of the resin interlayer.

20. (Currently Amended) In a liquid crystal display (LCD) fabrication process, a method for cleaning a resin residue, the method comprising:

forming an electrode layer;

forming an interlayer film of resin overlying the electrode layer;

patterning the resin interlayer;

forming a via to access the first area of the electrode layer;

in response to forming the via, forming a resin residue overlying the first area of the electrode;

forming a thin sheet of water overlying the resin residue;

blowing ozone gas into the sheet of water to create a moist ozone gas;

wet ashing the resin residue overlying the first area of the electrode layer using the moist ozone gas; and,

forming a pixel electrode overlying the first area of the electrode.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein forming a ~~thin~~ sheet of water overlying the resin residue includes:

placing the electrode layer upside down; and,
supplying the water from underneath the electrode layer.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein forming a ~~thin~~ sheet of water overlying the resin residue includes:

rotating the electrode layer; and,
supplying the water to the rotating electrode layer.

23. (Previously Added) The method of claim 22 wherein rotating the electrode layer includes rotating the electrode layer at a rate in the range of 800 to 1500 revolutions per minute.